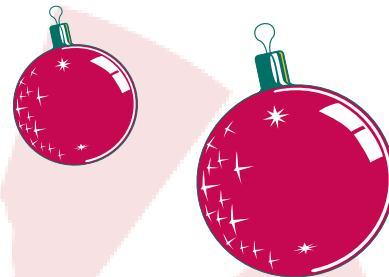


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Portage District Library Wins State Librarian's Excellence Award for First-Rate Public Service

Ann Arbor District Library and Troy Public Library Earn Citations of Excellence

By Sarah Lapshan, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

The Library of Michigan Foundation recently awarded the 2004 State Librarian's Excellence Award to Portage District Library for exemplary public service. This prestigious honor, which gives \$5,000 in privately raised funds to one Michigan library annually, was presented Oct. 28 at the State Librarian's Luncheon during the Michigan Library Association annual conference at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Traverse City.

The Ann Arbor District Library and the Troy Public Library each received a Library of Michigan Foundation Citation of Excellence.

"Libraries exist to serve the needs and interests of the people in their communities. It's our job and our passion to provide, for residents of all ages, equitable access to a world of information and resources," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "The three libraries we've selected this year as models of excellent customer service are guided by this credo every day, and we at the Library of Michigan and Library of Michigan Foundation are honored to call them colleagues."

"This award really belongs to the Portage community, the board, the staff, the patrons and all of the agencies with whom we work on so many collaborations," said Portage District Library Director Christine Berro. "I'm grateful for the award and want to thank everyone who plays a part in making our library as wonderful as I think it is."

According to Berro, her library has undergone an "amazing evolution" into a first-class, high-tech, well-funded and progressive institution, successfully meeting and exceeding the expectations of its customers. When customer service was challenged by space constraints, the library underwent a renovation and expansion project that tripled space and fully equipped the building to serve the needs of customers well into the future. Berro said the library also pursued and achieved independent district library status, making it



Left to right: State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau, Portage District Library Director Christine Berro, and Elizabeth Riley of Southfield, Mich.-based Hantz Group, which sponsored the award through the Library of Michigan Foundation.



Portage District Library staff at the State Librarian's Excellence Award luncheon at the annual Michigan Library Association conference in Traverse City. Library Director Christine Berro is holding the award.



Left to right: Elizabeth Riley of The Hantz Group (award sponsor), State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau, Library of Michigan Foundation Executive Director Judith Moore, Troy Public Library Director Brian Stoutenburg

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News from Nancy

By Nancy R. Robertson, Deputy State Librarian

Thanks to all who took the time to complete the Michigan Library Special Collections Survey. We had 155 responses. Of the 31 participating academic libraries, 27 listed special collections holdings; of the 100 public libraries, 94 listed special collections holdings; of the six school libraries, two had special collections to report; of the 14 special libraries, 12 have special collections; and all four who identified themselves as combined school and public libraries have collections to report.

Materials included in Michigan's special collections provide broad coverage of locale, time periods and format. As expected, the heaviest concentration of materials is local or Michigan-related, although regionally and nationally significant subject matter was noted over 80 times. Most materials date from 1900 to the present, but nearly the same amount also relate to the 19th century or earlier. Text format predominates, but significant numbers of image collections, multimedia and even artifacts are noted as well.

Collections cited are of all sizes and cover an expansive array of topics, including the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary research collection, Civil War letters, St. Ignace historical photos, manuscripts from the West Michigan Conference United Methodist Church archives, a Michigan VHS collection and 1930s films by the editor of *Outdoor Life* magazine. Who knew our Michigan libraries held such treasures!

The Michigan Library Digitization Task Force being formed and chaired by State Librarian Christie Brandau will have a great deal of useful data to work with over the coming years as it determines which special collections are candidates for digitization and formulates a prioritization schedule for the state.

continued from page 1

possible to grow and move in new, progressive directions beneficial to library customers.

For business customers, Berro said the library developed a well-organized new "business information center" with readily available business, investment and career materials and online computer programs all in one place for convenient public use. Library customer service has also been enhanced by a number of initiatives including the Emergent Literacy Program; the Online Summer Reading Program; the Voyager Program for "at risk" kids; teen room and teen collection enhancements; outreach to schools, daycare centers and the homebound; and a number of technological upgrades including the installation of a mobile computer lab for public computer classes, a new library automation system and upgraded online catalog, new public access computers, and installation of wireless technology for future growth.

Criteria for the State Librarian's Excellence Award – made possible this year through a grant from the Hantz Group – include: demonstrating that the library provides new, innovative and superior services to its customers in a cost-effective manner, with a can-do attitude and by always delivering promises; demonstrating the library's commitment to high standards of customer service through staff dealings with customers and synergy within the staff through a coordinated approach to supporting customers; and demonstrating that the library is a team player through its collaborations in the community.

This year's selection committee included State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau; Roger Mendel of the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative; Tim Richards of the University of Michigan – Dearborn; and Glen Bachelder, Tom Genson and Fran Pletz, all members of the Library of Michigan Foundation board.

Hantz Group, Inc., based in Southfield, Mich., is a full-service financial holding company founded in January 1998. For more information, visit www.hantzgroup.com.



Ann Arbor District Library
Director Josie Parker



Access Moves to Electronic Format

Due to budget constraints, beginning with the January 2005 issue *Access* will be published only in electronic format. We will continue to announce the posting of new issues of *Access* on various library mailing lists. The Library of Michigan maintains a subscription mailing list devoted solely to *Access*. Announcements of new issues will appear here also. You can register for this list at: <http://lists.dhal.org/mailman/listinfo/lm-access-newsletter>. Monthly issues will also be announced at <http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan>.

We plan to continue to include in *Access* a mix of announcements and in-depth articles on a wide range of library topics. We welcome topic suggestions, which may be sent to Casey Warner at warnercl@michigan.gov.

New Grants Analyst at the Library of Michigan



Kyle Kay Ripley was hired in August as a grants analyst for the Library of Michigan. She will help with the administration of LSTA and other grant programs. Kyle brings 25 years of experience in a variety of positions at the Library of Michigan. She has worked with federal and state documents, performed copy cataloging and tracked statistics in the Technical Services and Public Services divisions. While in Public Services for 18 years, she staffed the genealogy, circulation and reference desks, and created and presented workshops for patrons to learn about using library services and materials. Kyle was the administrator for the Michigan Cemetery Sources and 1870 Michigan Census Web sites. You may have seen articles she has written during her time on the *Access* newsletter team, particularly the "Web-Sitings" section. Kyle may be contacted at kripley@michigan.gov or (517) 373-1303.

How to Participate in MeLCat

By Louise Bugg, Michigan Library Consortium

Recently your library received a letter from State Librarian Christie Brandau inviting you to participate in MeLCat, the new statewide catalog and resource-sharing system. The initial MeLCat libraries are being added to

the catalog now, and the first group of libraries will "go live" early in January 2005. New libraries will be added quarterly. There will be regular announcements of application deadlines for each quarter. As announced in Christie's letter, applications for inclusion in the January–March quarter were due the first week in December 2004. Libraries to be added will be finalized three weeks before each quarter. All Michigan libraries are invited to participate.

You can keep track of the libraries being added in each quarter at <http://michiganlibrary.org>.

MeLCat Application Process

Libraries interested in participating in the MeLCat statewide catalog and resource-sharing system may apply by taking the following steps. (Note: libraries need to complete these steps even if they indicated their interest previously in response to the "Mel Catalog Readiness Survey, 2003" that was part of the planning process for the MeLCat project.)

1) Submit a **MeLCat participation application form** (<http://www.michiganlibrary.org/catalog/participation.html>) and agree to:

- load your bibliographic records and holdings into the union catalog;
- share your circulating collections and authorize your patrons to make requests;
- abide by MeLCat policies;
- and participate in the statewide delivery service.

2) If your library is a member of a shared library automation system, the shared system will also need to submit a **MeLCat shared system application form** <http://www.michiganlibrary.org/catalog/participation.html> and agree to:

- provide your bibliographic and holdings records for loading; and
- provide links to your patron records, as needed for your library to participate in MeLCat.

3) Submit a **MeLCat pre-implementation questionnaire**. This will be sent to your library after the participation application is received, with questions about your local automation system and your preference for when to implement MeLCat. This information will be used to schedule your library into a MeLCat implementation group.

4) If your library needs to sign up for delivery, submit a **delivery participation agreement** (<http://www.michiganlibrary.org/delivery/index.html>) and the **"Join MeL Delivery" Web form**. Libraries are added to the delivery service monthly.



Technical Details for Participation

Details about what it takes to participate in MeLCat are listed at <http://michiganlibrary.org/catalog/techrequirements.html>.

MeLCat uses information from your library's local ILS (integrated library system) to add holdings and patron information to the statewide union catalog and to retrieve status details. (This system is NOT based on Z39.50).

Meeting with ILS system vendors

In late September the MeLCat implementation team hosted an information meeting for ILS system vendors. Vendors who have systems currently in use in Michigan libraries were invited. The purpose of this meeting was to provide detailed information about how MeLCat will function with local systems. As a result of this meeting, system vendors should have a better understanding of these interactions and what functions their local systems will need to provide. At the request of the vendors, MLC has created a discussion list where vendors can post questions and see answers so that all of them can keep up with MeL interface issues.

The vendors who participated in the vendor briefing on Sept. 29th were Auto-Graphics, Dynix, Endeavor, Follett, GIS Information Systems (via conference phone), Infovision Software, Innovative Interfaces, NuGen Systems, Sirsi and The Library Corporation (TLC).

Vendors were asked to complete a MeLCat survey about their systems prior to the briefing. Additional vendors who completed the survey but were unable to participate in the meeting are Brodart, CASPR Library Systems, EOS International, ExLibris, Librarysoft and Sagebrush.

If you have any questions about participating in MeLCat, please contact MeLCat staff at the Michigan Library Consortium by calling 1-800-530-9019.

Call for Nominations: 2005 Rural Libraries Conference Awards

*By Deb Bacon-Ziegler, Continuing Education Coordinator,
Library of Michigan*

Do you know someone at a rural library who is a collection development guru? How about someone who

goes the extra mile when working with children and teens? Maybe a trustee or Friend who always comes through for the library, no matter what? Here's your chance to let them shine! Nominate your exceptional library colleagues, trustees and Friends for a **Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference Award**.

The nine award categories include:

- ***Children's/Teen Award*** recognizes a librarian from a small or rural library who has made significant contributions to and a positive impact on library service to children and/or teens.
- ***Public Services Award*** recognizes a librarian from a small or rural library who has developed outstanding library program or services.
- ***Technical Services Award*** recognizes a librarian from a small or rural library who has enhanced technical services for the library.
- ***Administration Award*** recognizes a librarian from a small or rural library who has demonstrated management strategies that secure resources for the library.
- ***Trustee/Friend Award*** is given to a trustee or Friend of the library for distinguished service to rural library development on the local, state, regional or national level.
- ***Collection Development Award*** recognizes a small or rural library/librarian whose collection development practices show significant impact on the library and community.
- ***Technology Award*** recognizes a librarian who has made a significant contribution to a small or rural library by adding, maintaining, and/or providing training for technology.
- ***Collaboration & Partnerships Award*** recognizes a small or rural library/librarian who has developed successful partnerships outside their institution.
- ***Librarian of the Conference Award*** recognizes a librarian who is an outstanding leader in the profession. The Librarian of the Conference has invested him/herself in efforts to affect positive change in small or rural libraries. This award goes to an individual currently employed in a Michigan library.



Please note that Library Cooperative staff and Conference Planning Committee members are not eligible for conference awards.

There are many, many talented staff, trustees, and Friends working in our rural libraries. Recognize them with a nomination! Please submit nomination forms and supporting documentation no later than **Feb. 4, 2005** to:

Sherry Mountney
Tamarack District Library
407 Lincoln Avenue
P.O. Box 469
Lakeview MI 48850
lvwsm@llcoop.org

The 2005 conference will be held May 2-4, 2005, at the Boyne Highlands Resort in Harbor Springs. Conference booklets and registration information will be available in early 2005.



Quality Measures Audit Checklist In Review

By Martha McKee, Project Coordinator, Library of Michigan Quality Services

QSAC for Public Libraries

On July 19, the Library of Michigan went live with its “essential” level of the Quality Measures Audit Checklist (QSAC) for public libraries. In the three months, 12 libraries qualified for essential-level status, including libraries of all sizes and areas of the state. More than 45 libraries have indicated they are working on their certificates.

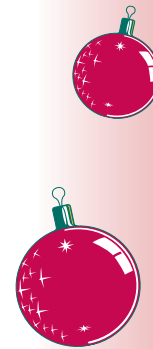
The listserv for QSAC, qsac-l, is up and running with over 100 members. The “enhanced” level went live on Dec. 1, and the “excellent” level is projected to start up in February 2005. It’s been a two-year process to achieve our goals, and we are gratified by the initial participation and interest. I want to add a special thank you to the cooperative directors for their continuing support.

QSAC for Library Cooperatives

The success of QSAC for public libraries sparked an interest by library cooperative directors for a similar product for cooperatives. They requested that the Library of Michigan sponsor such a project, and the QSAC for Coops Advisory Committee began working early in February 2004.

Following the example of QSAC, the committee divided cooperative duties into five categories – advocacy, administration, governance, services and technology. Five subcommittees, with participation from libraries of all types, met and developed quality measures on these subjects. They used the same three levels of service used by QSAC – essential, enhanced and excellent – as further divisions of quality.

In September, the Advisory Committee reviewed and edited the subcommittee’s work. In October, the cooperative directors reviewed the advisory committee’s recommendations. After review by the state librarian, the final product will undergo review by the entire library community before it is submitted to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees for approval.



NOMINATION FORM

2005 Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference Awards

Name of nominee: _____

Position/Title: _____

Library Address: _____

Phone: _____

PLEASE PREPARE A NOMINATION PACKET FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL BY COMPLETING STEPS 1-4

1. INDICATE THE AWARD CATEGORY FOR WHICH YOU ARE NOMINATING THIS INDIVIDUAL:

<input type="checkbox"/> Children's/Teen	<input type="checkbox"/> Collection Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration & Partnerships
<input type="checkbox"/> Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Librarian of the Conference
<input type="checkbox"/> Trustee/Friend	

2. IN A LETTER OF NOMINATION, TELL THE AWARD COMMITTEE:

- Your reason for recommending this nominee
- The nominee's work history as it relates to the award category
- The nominee's outstanding abilities, activities, programs, and/or achievements

3. COLLECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION AS APPROPRIATE

4. SUBMIT 1 ORIGINAL AND 10 COPIES OF THE NOMINATION PACKET (11 TOTAL) TO:

Sherry Mountney Tamarack District Library 407 Lincoln Avenue P.O. Box 469 Lakeview MI 48850 lvwsm@llcoop.org	Packet checklist:	-Nomination form -Letter of nomination -Letters of support -other supporting documentation
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NOMINATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2005

To be completed by the nominator:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Tired of the same old ANSWER?

The Library of Michigan is pleased to unveil the new version of our online catalog, ANSWER. Not only does the catalog sport a fresh new look, it also provides access to Michigan State University Libraries' catalog.

See a librarian for details!

Off-site users can still access ANSWER by visiting *www.michigan.gov/hal* and clicking on ANSWER.



ANSWER: The Library of Michigan's Online Catalog

[ANSWER Home](#) | [LM Home](#) | [LM Hours](#) | [Contact LM](#) | [Visit LM](#) | [LM Policies](#) | [Ask A Librarian](#)

Search	
Keyword	Title
Author	Author/Title
Subject	Call Number
Need Help Searching?	

Narrow Your Search by Location
State Archives
Library of Michigan Law Library
Genealogy Microfilm Collection

View
Your Circulation Record
New Titles

Have a Question?
**ASK THE LIBRARY OF
MICHIGAN**



Resource
Sharing Program

Search **MAGIC**, the combined catalog of the Library of Michigan and Michigan State University Libraries.



Where Are The Records of Those Who Served Our Nation?

By Charles Hagler, Reference Librarian, Library of Michigan

To locate an individual's military record, it is important to know when and where that person served in the armed forces and whether he or she served as an officer or as enlisted personnel. Once you have that information, the types of records you may be able to find are officer appointments and commissions, muster rolls, payrolls, rosters, correspondence and service records. Also there are battle reports, court-martial cases and desertions records. You may find records of prisoners of war, casualties and death. Additional records may include medical reports, photographs, pensions, bounty-land grants, bonuses and family assistance, soldiers' homes, burials, censuses of veterans, conscription, war claims and pardons.

Records prior to the formation of the United States reside with the states that formed the original 13 colonies and with the British government. Each colony maintained its own militias, which were usually manned and equipped by its towns and villages, or even its wealthiest citizens.

Until the 20th century, it was the responsibility of the states to raise the manpower necessary for the federal government to fight its wars. You should first begin your search for records at the state depository of military records, such as a state archives or library (see the Library of Michigan and State Archives of Michigan Web sites at <http://michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan> or <http://michigan.gov/statearchives>). This is especially true if you are researching Confederate veterans or veterans of the Revolutionary War. The chief depository of federal records is the United States National Archives and Records Administration (<http://www.archives.gov>).

Even today the National Guard plays a major role in the U.S. military, as recent events have shown. The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (<http://www.michigan.gov/dmva>) maintains records for veterans from World War II up to the present day. Many of these records are still covered by privacy laws, and in most cases, you need to establish a date of death before accessing them.

Additional information on veterans may be found at the military archives of the armed forces, the military academy archives, veterans organizations, American Battle Monuments Commission (<http://www.abmc.gov>), the Library of Congress, the National Museum of Health and Medicine (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/med->

tour/nmhbm.html), United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and state departments of military and/or veterans affairs.

Another resource is the various societies for sons or daughters of veterans such as the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (<http://www.dar.org/natsociety/default.cfm>). There are similar societies for colonial wars, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War and the Spanish American War.

For additional information regarding U.S. military records you may wish to look at James C. Neagles' 1994 work, *U. S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present*, considered to be the best printed guide to military records available.

Web-sitings

By Kyle Kay Ripley, Library of Michigan

United States Veterans

Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs

<http://www.vba.va.gov>

National Veterans Organization of American

<http://www.nvo.org>

Official Site of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

<http://www.vfw.org>

VFW National Home for Children (only one in the U.S. in Eaton Rapids, Mich.)

<http://www.vfwnationalhome.org>

Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets>

House Committee on Veterans Affairs

<http://veterans.house.gov>

Sons of Confederate Veterans of the Civil War

<http://www.scv.org/membership/genealogy.asp>

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

<http://suvcw.org/gene.htm>

National Archives – Access to Military Service and Pension Records\

http://www.archives.gov/research_room/obtain_copies/veterans_service_records.html



Local Public Libraries Cooperate with LBPH

By Sue Chinault, Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Manager, Library of Michigan

I was the library director of a small, rural public library in Pennsylvania for over one year before I accidentally discovered Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH), a federally subsidized Braille and Talking Book program for people who cannot hold a book, turn the pages or read standard print text. Skimming through a dusty binder hidden away in the staff workroom, I was amazed at what I found – brochures, flyers, bookmarks and applications all pointing the way to a library service delivered at no charge through the mail to people who qualify. I knew that some of our most avid readers and longtime patrons could benefit from this service as reading becomes more of a strain and less of a pleasure with failing eyesight.

As regional librarian for the Library of Michigan LBPH network, I'm pleased that many public libraries today are willing to provide information and an on-site demonstration of materials that could revitalize the literary endeavors of some of their patrons. Cooperating public libraries understand that our patrons are your patrons. In a recent survey covering 22 Michigan counties in which over 1,000 registered LBPH patrons responded, 39 percent said that they had checked out audio books from their local public library during the past year. Further, 8 percent checked out large print books, 5 percent used computers or adaptive technology at the public library, 15 percent asked for help with a reference question, and 6 percent attended a program sponsored by their local public library.

Nearly 100 public libraries throughout Michigan are currently cooperating with LBPH libraries by serving as a demonstration site. Once a library is formally registered, a specialized cassette player and two or three titles on cassette are shipped with a small supply of promotional materials and applications for service. Library staff members are prepared to talk about LBPH to patrons in a casual way as the need arises. Outreach librarians at the Rochester Hills Public Library cooperate with the Oakland County Library for the Visually and Physically Impaired (LVPI) by keeping a supply of applications with them during outreach visits. Rochester Hills refers an average of two new patrons per month for Talking Book service.

Ken Miller, director of Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie, feels strongly about the need for LBPH service. The Upper Peninsula Library for the Blind and

People with Disabilities (LBPD) is over 130 miles away in Marquette, so having the equipment to show patrons locally helps. There's another way in which Bayliss has cooperated. As host to one of several LBPD open houses held in public libraries around the U.P. last summer, assistance in filling out voter registration forms was offered to those who are blind or physically disabled. Information about absentee ballots and voter assistance at the polls was also disseminated.

Whether three or 133 miles from the nearest LBPH, public libraries that act as a promotional or demonstration site are meeting an essential quality measure under the services section of the Quality Standards Advisory Committee (QSAC) measures for public libraries. This is one measure that any public library can accomplish. To learn more call 1-800-992-9012 and we'll refer you to the LBPH in Michigan serving your area.

Michigan's Library Cooperatives: The Way to Spell Cooperation

By Roger Mendel, Director, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

In 1977, the Michigan Legislature passed Public Act 89, which increased state aid for public libraries in Michigan. Also included in the act were provisions for the formation of regional library systems called cooperatives. Under Public Act 286 of 1965, Michigan had over 24 library systems serving libraries in all areas of the state. P.A. 89 eliminated some of the systems, and after the first year there were 17 library cooperatives that provided service to all regions of the state. Services in those days centered on group purchasing, centralized cataloging, regional book pools, reference, and interlibrary loan and delivery. Cooperative directors also spent much time providing consultant services, especially to the smaller libraries in each cooperative.

In 2004, there are 12 cooperatives providing services to their memberships. The 1977 law provided the cooperatives with the ability to tailor resource sharing and other services to reflect the needs of the region. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, cooperatives in this state took a lead role in automating Michigan's libraries. The retrospective conversion of library holdings to provide the electronic databases needed to utilize new automation systems were spearheaded in most of the state by the cooperatives with grants from LSCA Title III funds channeled through the Regions of Cooperation. Grants



were also written during that time to provide computers for libraries, Internet connections and Internet training labs. During this decade cooperatives played a lead role in coordinating technology efforts in their areas and in providing the means to include the medium and small libraries in the projects.

As need for affordable control of holdings has continued to grow, a number of cooperatives in urban areas have taken on the role of providing an integrated circulation system to benefit their members. Examples of this collaboration also exist in rural areas of the state. Northland and the Upper Peninsula (UPRLC) have assisted in developing circulation systems that pool money and resources and provide a level of service not affordable for the individual library. Some cooperatives have also banded together to provide their members with increased access to materials across cooperative borders. Coordinating interlibrary loan and providing the delivery backbone in each region has allowed for the distribution of materials within the area, and new developments on the state level now allow for an affordable means of delivery statewide.

The cooperatives have also been the risk-takers in developing services around new media and experimenting with new technologies. In many areas, the cooperatives have been the lead agency in developing video, CD or e-book collections. Using cooperative dollars as well as grant money, the cooperatives have developed services utilizing new technologies which, after a period of time, have become standard library services and programs.

The goal of the cooperatives has been to bring libraries in a region together and to pool their resources so that everyone benefits. Throughout the state one can find stories of how this sharing has benefited not only the libraries involved, but more importantly the library users. Cooperative Director Alida Geppert sums up the cooperatives in this way: "From my perspective, each cooperative has uniquely applied local needs and wants to increased information, exploration and risk-taking behavior across the state. Looking back over the years, the growth and equity of services across the state, I believe, is a result of the cooperative activities regionally and the statewide coordination of efforts locally by cooperative actions."

Books Made of Kangaroo Leather, Bones and Burlap? It's No Fairy Tale!

By Edwina Morgan, Library of Michigan and Sarah Lapshan, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

An exhibit in the Library of Michigan's Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room shows that there's more to a good book than just a good story. Often, it's the making of the book that is the story, and visitors to the Library of Michigan's book arts exhibit afternoon open house will get to see, touch and learn about an assortment of remarkable, colorful and category-defying books.

This exhibit, which brings the craft of book arts into the public eye, runs through the end of December. It showcases the work of several Michigan book artists and includes books that have been produced in unique ways using specialty papers, bindings, inks and other creative means.

The exhibit includes the work of Eric Alstrom, Barbara Anderson, Ruth Bardenstein, Jean Buescher, Samantha Cairo, Tatiana Calixto, Kerri Cushman, Kevin Driedger, Nedra Frodge, Anne Percy Knott, Leyla Lailamb, Len Muir, Susan Porteous, Christine Reising, Robbyn Smith, Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen, Basil Wiering, Madeleine Wiering and Vernon Wiering.

Book artists use the physical form of the book as their medium. Using a variety of materials and techniques, these artists' creations can range from traditional hand-bound volumes to designs that stretch the very definition of a book.

"The book arts cover a broad range of skills and techniques including papermaking, printing, binding, design and illustration," said Kevin Driedger, one of the displaying artists. "With a little creativity and instruction, people of all ages can take part in this expressive and very accessible art form."

Along with the artists' books, the exhibit includes several items from the Library of Michigan's collection published by Michigan printers such as Adagio Press, Crankbook Press, the press of Paul Hayden Duensing, the Alternative Press and Gwen Frostic.



Happy Holidays from the Library of Michigan Staff!



Christie Pearson Brandau
Tara Warner
Nancy Robertson
Tim Watten
Terri Casper
Sunny Daye!
Sue Chinault
deb bacon-niegler
Julie Shaffer
Carol Ballard
Joyce Rutton
Elaine Harrison
Kara Hyde
Ken Dineen
Kathy Espenlaub
Andrew Wilson
Lori Dymowski-Mason
Jana Maudslott
Jana Hausman
Kara Neely
Karen White
Jana Webb
Sue Cady
Nancy Virebay
Sharon
Kim Kord



Story hour at the new Coloma Public Library

New Coloma Public Library

Coloma Public Library recently held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the unveiling of its new 18,340-square-foot facility.

After a successful three-year capital campaign and the passage of a \$3 million bond issue, the library finally moved into a new building located at the south end of downtown Coloma.

When the library opened, the public was able to see the innovative design elements of Alyce Riemenschneider of the Ann Arbor firm Riemenschneider Design Associates. A water fountain flowing from under the card catalog at the entrance of the library encourages patrons to follow the "Paw Paw River" as it winds its way back toward the children's area. Once there, the river opens up into the Paw Paw Lake, where the helm of a boat is moored and used as a sitting and play area for the patrons. With movable controls the boat is nestled in amid a mural on the western wall depicting scenes from Paw Paw Lake in years past. A glass wall encasing the entrance to the Children's Area, which both beautifies the area and reduces the noise level, depicts Crystal Palace, once a local landmark. The children's area – supported by a \$75,000 bequest from the Clarence and Anne Leonard estate, administered by the City of Coloma – features white clouds with playful figures hidden among the clouds and a tree in which the librarian can sit during story hour.

At the other end of the library a fireplace is highlighted by windows, offering patrons an enjoyable view of downtown Coloma and a peaceful spot to sit and read. With ample seating areas and lighting, a study room, a drive-up book return, a community room, better parking and more public computers for the patrons to use, the library has seen a significant increase in patrons and library usage.

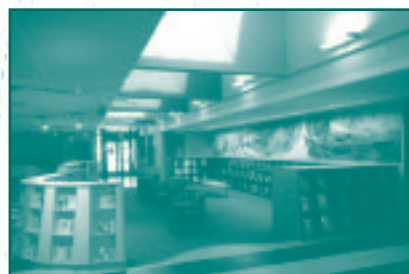
"Dream Weaver" is a Winner at the Grand Rapids Public Library

"Dream Weaver" was the winning title selected from entries in a recent sculpture-naming contest at the Grand Rapids Public Library (GRPL). Grand Rapids resident Leslie Dennis submitted the title and was awarded two books in recognition of her creativity. The winning title, chosen by the president of the Ryerson Library Foundation, was announced before the start of a program that was part of the celebration for the 100th anniversary of the Ryerson Building at the Main Library. The Ryerson Building was the first permanent home of the GRPL and was dedicated Oct. 5, 1904.

The previously untitled whimsical metal sculpture, featuring a woman seated in a rocking chair surrounded by four children and a dog, was given to the Ryerson Library Foundation by donor and designer Stuart Padnos. Padnos

donated the sculpture, located on the east side of the Main Library, early this past summer.

The Ryerson Library Foundation is the GRPL's fund-raising and advocacy group.



Mount Clemens Public Library

Mount Clemens Public Library Celebrates Renovation

Mount Clemens Public Library (MCPL) celebrated its newly completed interior renovation with an open house on Oct. 17. More than 200 citizens attended the event, during which former Congressman David Bonior spoke passionately about the importance of public libraries.

MCPL's facility was built in 1969 and had never received any updates until the spring of 2004, when a \$775,000 interior renovation was undertaken to modernize most of the first floor of the building. The entire project was funded without the burden of a bond issue or tax increase for residents of the library district. The new design, created by David Milling and Associates/Architects of Ann Arbor, includes a more open floor plan, lower shelving, greater capacity for technology and a unified public service desk.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Casey Warner at 517-373-5578 or email: warnerc1@michigan.gov.



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